

AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 04 April 2005 (04.04.05) ;
original claims 1 and 8 amended, remaining claims unchanged]

+STATEMENT

1. A security panel for a window or door, the panel comprising a frame and a substantially rigid panel member, the panel member having a peripheral edge which passes into a cavity in the frame, the cavity having a pair of opposed spaced apart sidewalls, at least one sidewall containing a projection extending therefrom and into the cavity and the peripheral edge containing a recess which passes into the projection when the panel member is in the cavity, thereby preventing removal of the panel member from the frame.
2. The panel of claim 1, wherein the frame comprises at least one elongate member formed with at least one cavity into which an edge of the panel member passes.
3. The panel of claim 2, wherein the cavity comprises an open channel which extends at least partially along the elongate member.
4. The panel of claim 3, wherein the panel member comprises a metal grid structure.
5. The panel of claim 4, wherein the peripheral edge of the panel member comprises end parts of the metal grid structure.
6. The panel of claim 5, wherein at least some of the end parts are provided with the recess.
7. The panel of claim 6, wherein all the end parts are provided with the recess and the recesses are in linear alignment.
8. The panel of claim 6, wherein the cavity in the frame is provided with an integrally formed longitudinal projection that passes into the recess on the panel member to prevent the panel member from being pulled out of the cavity.
9. The panel of claim 8, wherein the cavity comprises an elongate channel which contains the projection.

Statement under Article 19(1).

Claim 1 has been amended to 'restrict the panel member (the mesh) as being substantially rigid. Thus, the panel member may comprise a substantially rigid aluminium gridlike panel member. Importantly, claim 1 therefore disclaims the panel member (mesh) being made of flexible mesh material.

Many of the citations describe flexible mesh material typically made of woven stainless steel wires. Because of this, the mesh material cannot comprise a peripheral edge containing a recess. Moreover, because of the flexible nature of the mesh material, it is not possible to lock the mesh material into the surround frame (frame) by providing a cavity in the frame and having a projection extending from a side wall in the cavity which engages into a recess in the edge of the mesh. Instead, various plugs or stoppers are required to wedge the flexible material into a cavity.

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A skilled person being aware of the various citations containing flexible mesh, would see no reason to radically change the design to provide a substantially rigid panel member and then forming a recess (or groove) into the edge and then providing a frame with a channel having a projection extending from a side wall in the channel which locks into the recess to lock the substantially rigid panel member to the frame. There is nothing in any of the citations dealing with the flexible mesh that would teach these changes or provide any reason or teaching to make such changes.

Citations D1, D2, D3 and D5 all use flexible mesh material and therefore require various plugs or stoppers to hold the flexible mesh material to a surround frame.

Citations D4 and D6 describe a substantially rigid panel member. Citation D4 does not envisage any mechanism to hold the panel member into the frame other than by using a conventional fastener such as a "pop rivet". A skilled person being aware of this citation, would see no reason or need to amend the fastening arrangement of the panel member to the frame. There is no teaching in this citation to make any such change. The citation is more directed to a method to reduce the passage of insects through small gaps in the door.

Citation D6 describes a substantially rigid panel member, but does not describe the method of attachment of the panel member to a surround frame. Instead, the citation is directed to strengthening the panel member using bars that can extend over the front of the mesh. Alternatively, figure 7 of this citation illustrates the method whereby bars 37 can be placed transversely across the front of the mesh to provide strength. This citation does not however describe any particular desirable method of attachment of the reinforced panel member to the surround frame. Therefore, a skilled person reading this citation would see no reason to provide the particular edge profile of the panel member of the present invention, and the particular channel profile of the frame to attach the panel member to the frame.